

REMARKS

The Office Action, Applicant's Response to Restriction Requirement and Amendment

The Examiner required restriction, under 35 U.S.C. § 121, and required Applicant to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted. The Examiner designated the following four claim groups:

1. Group I: Claims 109-113, 115, 117-120, and 151-153, drawn to nucleic acid probes and primers corresponding to human PAPSS2, and kits containing them;
2. Group II: Claims 114, 116, and 121-123, drawn to nucleic acid probes and primers corresponding to human Papss2, and kits containing them;
3. Group III: Claims 124-150, drawn to methods of diagnosing spondyloepimetaphyseal dysplasia (SEMD), or of identifying a human carrier of SEMD.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects **Group I**, without traverse. Applicant requests the Examiner to cancel Claims 114, 116, and 121-150, without prejudice as belonging to non-elected claim groups. Applicant's elections are made with a complete reservation of all rights under 35 U.S.C. § 121.

Amendments to Claims 109-113, 115, 117-120, and 151, are made to delete extraneous periods from the sequence identifications, so that there will be properly only one period per claim.

Amendments to the preambles of Claims 112 and 113, substituting "probe or primer" for the word "construct", are for greater clarity by conforming to the antecedent basis of independent Claim 109.

An amendment to Claim 152 changing the dependency from canceled "Claim 30" to "Claim 117" is merely to correct a typographical error.

The amendments submitted herein contain no new matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that this application is now ready for allowance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (213) 896-6665.

Respectfully submitted,

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